

26 November 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 26 November 1980

Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting. []

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[] Mr. Carlucci announced there would be no Staff Meeting on 28 November.

25X1

Lehman reported that the situation in Poland was a little "cooler" today as a result of the rail strike settlement. In response to Mr. Carlucci's question, Lehman said there was an increase in the seasonal movement of Soviet troops although there has been none of the massive activity that would indicate that the Soviets were getting ready to intervene in Poland. McMahon said [] on the Polish situation, believe the Soviets will eventually intervene. []

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[] McMahon reported that Sergeant Doe, Chief of State, Liberia, is going to Libya to negotiate for \$40 million which Qadhafi promised the Liberians.

25X1

Mr. Carlucci is awaiting recommendations re briefing the French and selected African countries on Libyan military activities against Chad. Mr. Carlucci said that Assistant Secretary of State Newsom called him this morning and said that State had been given permission to [] briefing. Mr. Carlucci said he was not aware that permission had been granted and asked Hineman to find out what the situation is. []

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McMahon said that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is going to visit Peru. []

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SECRET

Fitzwater said that the Agency's Combined Federal Campaign was [redacted] short of its goal of [redacted]

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25X1

Fitzwater reported that Jack Blake underwent successful surgery on 25 November. [redacted]

25X1

Lipton said the Agency is moving along on the non-covert action supplemental and that Keith Hall, OMB, wants to begin hearings on 8 December. Lipton said that the list of requests, which total [redacted] has been broken down into ten major categories and that he would be in touch with those Agency officers who will present each category to Hall. [redacted]

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Hineman mentioned the Jack Anderson column which appeared in today's Washington Post (attached). [redacted]

25X1

Hitz said that we have to get our reprogramming letter up to the Hill today or Friday because the mark-up hearings will begin shortly. [redacted] said he will report back to Mr. Carlucci on the status of the letter and provide a memorandum for his signature. [redacted]

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Silver reported that 15 survivors of victims of the Jonestown massacre have filed suit against CIA. This opens up the possibility that under the rules of discovery we may have to provide their attorneys with sensitive information. [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] commented on his visit to Cape Canaveral where he was briefed on the shuttle program. [redacted]

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Attachment

SECRET

JACK ANDERSON

U.S. Kept Mum on Soviet Sub Patrol

U.S. intelligence agencies often keep secrets from the American public that are well known to the men in the Kremlin. Sometimes the secrets leak out in a matter of days — and sometimes not for years.

Here's a shocker that the intelligence experts have sat on for five years: In 1975, a Soviet Y-class missile-carrying submarine came within 300 miles of the Carolina coast. Its 16 nuclear missiles could have hit targets 1,500 miles inland — a range that includes our Strategic Air Command headquarters as well as major population centers throughout the eastern half of the country.

It was an unprecedented "patrol" for a Soviet missile sub, apparently intended to test the U.S. response. As the top-secret National Intelligence Daily pointed out in its June 6, 1975, issue, the Y-class Soviet submarine had come 900 miles closer to the East Coast than such subs normally did.

Although intelligence analysts called the mission "unprecedented," and said it represented a "dramatic change" in Soviet patrol patterns, they made no public announcement of the incident. In a later, lengthy analysis, the experts explained the ominous conclusions to be drawn from the provocative patrol:

"Because the warning time for missiles launched from a submarine at such a close-in location would be very short, some U.S. targets — such as strategic bombers — would become quite vulnerable unless relocated far-

ther inland or maintained at a higher state of readiness."

Here are the facts of the June 1975 incident, according to a still secret report: "A Y-class, nuclear-powered ballistic-missile submarine and a V-class, nuclear-powered attack boat made a coordinated patrol about 350 miles off the East Coast of the U.S. — the closest a modern Soviet ballistic-missile submarine had ever been. Y-class submarines normally patrol about 900 to 1,200 miles farther out to sea." The submarines moved down the coast from the Cape Cod area to within 300 miles of North Carolina before pulling back.

The analysts decided that the probable purpose of the close-in patrol was "to provoke a reaction by U.S. anti-submarine forces." Beyond careful monitoring of the Soviet probe, however, there was no U.S. response.

Evidently emboldened by their June mission, the Soviets later sent a V-class attack sub, which is armed with torpedoes, not missiles, to within 120 miles of Cape Hatteras, N.C., where it patrolled for nearly a week. Previously the sub had come no closer than 300 miles off the coast.

The intelligence experts learned some encouraging things about the Soviet Navy's underwater capability during their monitoring of the 10-day June patrol. The Russian sub had "numerous communications failures [and] problems with passive sonars." The missile-carrying sub "emitted oc-

casional noises" that were easily detected by the U.S. watchers.

"The combination of equipment failures and breaches in operational security would seem to call into question Soviet standards of maintenance and training," the analysts concluded. "Assuming the Soviet Navy would send only first-line submarines and crews on such a patrol, the Soviets' standards appear lower than those of first-line U.S. submarines."

In July 1976, the Air Force began beefing up its B52 patrols over the Atlantic, to keep track of "widening Soviet naval operations," it was announced at the time.

Soviet missile subs still "kind of come and go," a CIA spokesman informed my reporters Dale Var Atta and Dave Carpenter, "for a [U.S.] missile firing they want to monitor or something."

Another Fine Mess — Armed services personnel and their families can be forgiven if they feel like second-class citizens sometimes. While the federal government spends \$35 a day feeding each Cuban refugee troublemaker held in a detention center, and \$9 a day for each peaceable Cuban awaiting resettlement, the Pentagon budgets just \$3.21 a day to feed each member of the armed forces.

In addition, military commissaries offer fewer savings than they once did to service families, many of whom must resort to food stamps. Things may improve in the new, defense-minded Reagan administration.